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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Argentina, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom and United States of America: revised joint draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, 393 (V) of 2 December 1950, 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952, 614 (VII) of 6 November 1952, 720 (VIII) of 27 November 1953, 818 (IX) of 4 December 1954 and 916 (X) of 3 December 1955,

Noting the annual report and the special report of the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the report of the Advisory Commission of the Agency,

Having reviewed the budget for relief and rehabilitation prepared by the Director of the Agency,

Noting with concern that contributions thereto are not yet sufficient,

Noting that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), has not been effected, that no substantial progress has been made in the programme endorsed in paragraph 2 of resolution 513 (VI) for the reintegration of refugees and that therefore the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern,

Noting that the host Governments have expressed the wish that the Agency continue to carry out its mandate in their respective countries or territories and have expressed their wish to co-operate fully with the Agency and to extend to it every appropriate assistance in carrying out its functions, in accordance

with the provisions of Articles 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the terms of the Convention of Privileges and Immunities, the contents of paragraph 17 of its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and the terms of the agreements with the host Governments,

1. Directs the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to pursue its programmes for the relief and rehabilitation of refugees, bearing in mind the limitation imposed upon it by the extent of the contributions for the fiscal year;

2. Requests the host Governments to co-operate fully with the Agency and with its personnel and to extend to it every appropriate assistance in carrying out its functions;

3. Requests the Governments of the area, without prejudice to paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III), in co-operation with the Director of the Agency, to plan and carry out projects capable of supporting substantial numbers of refugees;

4. Requests the Agency to continue its consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine in the best interest of their respective tasks, with particular reference to paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III);

5. Decides to retain the rehabilitation fund and authorizes the Director in his discretion to disburse such monies, as may be available, to the individual host Governments for general economic development projects, subject to agreement by any such Government that within a fixed period of time it will assume financial responsibility for an agreed number of refugees, such number to be commensurate with the cost of the project without prejudice to paragraph 11 of resolution 194 (III);

6. Reiterates its appeal to private organizations and Governments to assist in meeting the serious needs of other claimants for relief as referred to in paragraph 5 of resolution 916 (X);

7. Requests the Negotiating Committee for Extra Budgetary Funds, after receipt of the requests for contributions from the Director of the Agency, to seek the financial assistance needed from the United Nations Members;

8. Urges all Governments to contribute or to increase their contributions to the extent necessary to carry through to fulfillment the Agency's relief and rehabilitation programmes;

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9. Notes with approval the action of the Agency in continuing to carry out its programme for the refugees in the Gaza Strip;

10. Expresses its thanks to the Director and the staff of the Agency for continued faithful efforts to carry out its mandate, and to the specialized agencies and the many private organizations for their valuable and continuing work in assisting the refugees;

11. Notes that the Agency is changing its financial period from a fiscal to a calendar year basis and that consequently the current budgets cover an 18-month period from 1 July 1956 to 31 December 1957, and that special arrangements for the audit of funds in this period are being made with the United Nations Board of Auditors;

12. Requests the Director of the Agency to continue to submit the reports referred to in paragraph 21 of resolution 302 (IV) as modified by paragraph 11 above.